

Message Text

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45

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 NIC-01 SY-10

COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 AID-20 IGA-02 DRC-01 /161 W
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O 251304Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1040

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 5815

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, BL

SUBJ: GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES DISCOVERY OF SUBVERSIVE PLOT
BY EXILED LEFTIST LEADERS

1. MINISTER OF INTERIOR COLONEL WALTER CASTRO ANNOUNCED
SEPTEMBER 23 DISCOVERY OF SUBVERSIVE PLOT DIRECTED BY EXILED
LEFTIST LEADERS JUAN JOSE TORRES, HERMAN SILES SUAZO
AND JUAN LECHIN, SEEKING TO BRING ABOUT STATE OF URBAN
GUERRILLA WARFARE. CASTRO DISPLAYED CAPTURED ARMS AND DOCUMENTS
TO ASSEMBLED NEWSMEN IN DEFENSE OF HIS ALLEGATIONS, AND
ALSO ANNOUNCED ARREST OF 89 INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING LABOR
LEADERS LUSI LOPEZ (OF LA PAZ FACTORY WORKERS FEDERATION)
AND MARIO PAZ SOLDAN, CHIEF OF BANK WORKERS' UNION.
ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MINISTER FOLLOWED MEETING ON SAME DAY
AT MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT MINISTERS
WITH FPN SECRETARY-GENERAL JAIME PONCE CABALLERO, VICTOR
PAZ ESTENSSORO, CIRO HUMBOLDT, GUILLERMO FORTUN AND
SUB-SECRETARIES OF LABOR, INFORMATION AND PLANNING.

2. IN RESPONSE TO ARREST OF PAZ SOLDAN, LA PAZ BANK
WORKERS BEGAN STRIKE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 24. EMBASSY ALSO
HAS REPORTS THAT SOME OF LA PAZ FACTORY WORKERS MAY BE ON
STRIKE.

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3. BEGIN COMMENT: AT THIS POINT, EMBASSY CAN NEITHER
CONFIRM NOR DENY ACTUAL EXISTENCE OF ALLEGED LEFTIST PLOT.
ALL ELEMENTS OF GOVERNING FPN COALITION APPEAR TO BE TAKING
MIN INTERIOR REPORT SERIOUSLY, HOWEVER, AND MNR IN PARTICULAR
GAVE STRONG SYMBOLIC BACKING TO COLONEL CASTRO'S STATEMENTS
THROUGH ATTENDANCE OF PAZ AND TWO FORMER MNR MINISTERS OF
LABOR, PLUS SUBSECRETARIES OF THREE MINISTRIES CONTROLLED
BY MNR, AT PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT MEETING.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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